



JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS of the CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Regular Meeting – Monday, August 17, 2020

at 7:00 P.M.

* – City Hall – Charleston, West Virginia

OFFICIAL RECORD

Amy Shuler Goodwin
Mayor

Miles C. Cary II
City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER*

The Council met at 7:00 P.M., for the second meeting in the month of August on the 17th day, in the year 2020, and was called to order by the Honorable Mayor, Amy Shuler Goodwin. The invocation was delivered by Councilmember Adams and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Goodwin. The Honorable Clerk, Miles C. Cary II, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at the time:

ADAMS	BAILEY	BAYS
BURTON	CAMPBELL	CEPERLEY
COOK	FAEGRE	HAAS
HOOVER	JENKINS	JONES
KING	KNAUFF	LAIRD
MCKINNEY	MINARDI	OVERSTREET
PERSINGER	PHARR	REISHMAN
ROBINSON	SHEETS	SNODGRASS
STEELE	WESLEY-PLEAR	MAYOR GOODWIN

With twenty-seven members being present, the Mayor declared a quorum present.

Pending the reading of the Journal of the previous meeting, the reading thereof was dispensed with and the same duly approved.

*In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting of Council was conducted electronically. The City Clerk and Mayor Goodwin were physically present, while the remaining members of Council attended via conference call. The meeting was made available to the public as a live stream via Zoom and CivicClerk (per the agenda).

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

NONE

CLAIMS

1. A claim of Dinah Adkins, Cross Lanes, WV;
alleges damage to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.
2. A claim of Mary Cotton, Charleston, WV;
alleges damage to property.
Refer to City Solicitor.
3. A claim of Benjamin Heading and Autumn Burns, Charleston, WV;
alleges damage to property.
Refer to City Solicitor.
4. A claim of Donald Jordan, Winfield, WV;
alleges damage to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.
5. A claim of William D Pack, Charleston, WV;
alleges damage to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.
6. A claim of Herschel Hampton Rose IV, Charleston, WV;
alleges damage to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.
7. A claim of Richard Seabolt, Charleston, WV;
alleges damages to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.
8. A claim of William Shrewsberry, Charleston, WV;
alleges damages to vehicle.
Refer to City Solicitor.

PROCLAMATIONS

1.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF CHARLESTON
PROCLAMATION**

- WHEREAS:** International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event that is held August 31st each year to remember those lost from overdose deaths; and
- WHEREAS:** Dedicated treatment providers work tirelessly to help individuals with substance use disorders recover; and
- WHEREAS:** Addiction is not a moral failing but a complex and treatable disease, and a life of recovery is possible; and
- WHEREAS:** We must take every opportunity to connect individuals struggling with substance use disorder with treatment; and
- WHEREAS:** Local engagement and leadership is imperative to developing and supporting solutions; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Charleston's Coordinated Addiction Response Effort and the West Virginia Drug Intervention Institute continue a collaborative effort to collect data and conduct analysis to identify gaps in services, expand the Quick Response Team (QRT) program and conduct outreach with comprehensive resources for educators, first responders, employers, those in recovery and individuals seeking recovery.

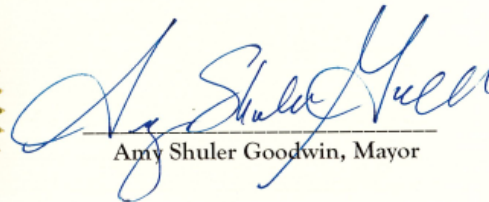
NOW THEREFORE, I, Amy Shuler Goodwin, Mayor of the City of Charleston, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2020, as

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in Charleston, West Virginia and urge all citizens to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are diligently working toward recovery.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 17th day of August 2020.




Amy Shuler Goodwin, Mayor

The Proclamation was virtually presented to Denise Hanson.

COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Councilmember Jenkins, Chair of the Council Committee on Finance, submitted the following reports:

1. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 369-20 do pass.

Resolution No. 369-20 - A Resolution authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to submit a grant application to the Department of Justice - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program in the amount of \$123,807.00 and administer any funds awarded. The Charleston Police Department will use \$81,005.00 to purchase items including hand-held radios, motorcycle safety equipment upgrades, FARO laptop and covert recording devices. The Kanawha County Sheriff's Department will utilize \$42,802.00 to purchase crime scene investigation supplies.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

The Mayor or City Manager is authorized to submit a grant application to the Department of Justice - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program in the amount of \$123,807.00 and administer any funds awarded. The Charleston Police Department will use \$81,005.00 to purchase items including hand-held radios, motorcycle safety equipment upgrades, FARO laptop and covert recording devices. The Kanawha County Sheriff's Department will utilize \$42,802.00 to purchase crime scene investigation supplies.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the resolution is to apply for grant funding to be shared between the Kanawha County Sherriff's Office and the Charleston Police Department for motorcycle upgrades, a FARO laptop that has a 3-D camera for the recreation of crime and accident scenes, etc.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Ceperley seconded the motion. With a majority of members present recorded thereon as voting in the affirmative, the Mayor declared Resolution No. 369-20 adopted.

2. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 370-20 do pass.

Resolution No. 370-20 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kanawha County Commission designating the City as the applicant and fiscal agent for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

The Mayor or City Manager is authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kanawha County Commission designating the City as the applicant and fiscal agent for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the resolution will allow the City to be the fiscal agent that will administer any grant funds awarded from Resolution No. 369-20.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Ceperley seconded the motion. With a majority of members present recorded thereon as voting in the affirmative, the Mayor declared Resolution No. 370-20 adopted.

3. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 371-20 do pass.

Resolution No. 371-20 - Authorizing approval of Amendment No. 2 in the FY 2020-2021 General Fund Budget as indicated on the attached list of accounts.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That Amendment No. 2 in the FY 2020-2021 General Fund Budget as indicated on the attached list of accounts is approved.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the resolution proposed to shift funds recently approved under the CDBG budget. It will transfer funding to the CARE Office for a Mental Health Coordinator.

Councilmember Snodgrass added that with CDBG money being one-time funding, that amount of approximately \$65,000 will be added to the General Budget next time. Given the finances of the City, it is a slippery slope of how they will continue to pay for that employee. Mayor Goodwin added that the CDBG funding does not come out of the general revenue funding. Councilmember Snodgrass said that they will become a City employee through that funding this year, but what about next year. Mayor Goodwin answered that it is a two-year program currently. Additionally, it is something that is done in many other cities, and the CPD have been asking for this as a helpful addition to their team. If they can show that this position has been a benefit to the citizens of Charleston and has been helpful to the Police Department, then they will look to secure that money in the future. Councilmember Snodgrass confirmed that the position is fully funded for two years. Mayor Goodwin added that they will let any prospective employees know of the funding situation. Councilmember Snodgrass said that, being surrounded by so many health and mental care facilities and services and the City keeps expanding that, and she worries about future funding. Councilmember Snodgrass added that it seemed like a lot of those services were once provided by Prestera, but the City has now taken that on. Mayor Goodwin added that the City still works with Prestera, and they are a critical asset. She added that unless someone wants to privately fund a Mental Health Coordinator for the CPD, the Administration felt that it was worthy of the CDBG funding. Councilmember Snodgrass added that she struggles with the fact that there is a small pot of money available for those sorts of projects, and that there are similar programs from CAMC, Thomas, Prestera, etc. that have been doing that long-term already with built in expertise.

Councilmember Minardi asked what would the Mental Health Specialist do in general. Mayor Goodwin answered that they would provide the CPD assistance with homelessness (with getting

housing, identification, etc.), with be the liaison between the CPD and mental health agencies, and be able to immediately address situations with the CPD. Mayor Goodwin added that the CPD has asked for this. Councilmember Minardi asked if this position would have access to the public at the point of booking. Mayor Goodwin replied not necessarily. They would be able to also respond to instances that do not require an arrest (such as someone being in a state of distress).

Councilmember Faegre added that if they were to ever visit a warming center, they would see firsthand why the City needs this position.

Councilmember Wesley-Plear confirmed that the Mental Health Coordinator would be able to provide mental health training to Police Officers as well.

Councilmember Snodgrass said that given the salary, she was shocked to see that a licensed social worker or a degree in the field, who would know the regulations/laws, was not required.

Councilmember Steele added that, living in an urban neighborhood, she understands that the services provided within the City through non-profit organizations have been overwhelmed for a long time. She has observed the CPD trying to deal with mental health issues where she knows the job would have been easier if someone else had been there to take care of those issues. She had assumed that the person being hired for this position had to have a social work background or something of that degree. Councilmember Steele added that she knows this position is needed and hopes it is filled by someone who is qualified.

Councilmember Snodgrass added that the job description lists a Bachelor or Master's in Social Work as preferred.

Councilmember Persinger added that he is concerned that the City is trying to treat mental health issues of far more than the local community (out of state, etc.). Mayor Goodwin added that someone being disruptive with a mental health issue in the City has to be dealt with by the CPD. Councilmember Persinger added that it seemed too much for one person in the position to handle. Mayor Goodwin added that the City is helping the community by making sure that those who need help receive it, and those who are taking advantage and stealing from the community are being penalized.

Councilmember King added that it is a great idea to have a Mental Health Coordinator, and is very needed in the area.

Councilmember Jenkins added that he believes this position is needed, and that it goes in line with current discussions about allowing police to focus on criminals. Service related to mental health etc. are better addressed by individuals trained in those situations. Councilmember Jenkins added that mental health problems are not just limited to homeless or urban areas.

Councilmember McKinney added that given the recent incident, this position is very important that the City needs to try.

Councilmember Snodgrass suggested that the Bachelor or Master's in Social Work be changed to "required" as they will be most knowledgeable about regulations. Upon written request to the Clerk's Office from Councilmember Snodgrass, that portion of the job description is reproduced:

Minimum Education and Experience Requirements:

- Bachelor or Master's in Social Work preferred
- Crisis intervention experience
- Familiarity with mental hygiene process
- 2 years experience in mental health or related field

Councilmember Wesley-Plear added that making a Bachelor or Master's in Social Work required would leave out the potential expertise of someone with a counseling background.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Ceperley seconded the motion. A roll call was taken:

YEAS: Adams, Bays, Bailey, Burton, Campbell, Ceperley, Cook, Faegre, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, King, Laird, McKinney, Minardi, Overstreet, Persinger, Pharr, Reishman, Robinson, Sheets, Steele, Wesley-Plear, Mayor Goodwin

NAYS: Knauff, Snodgrass

ABSENT: NONE

With a majority of members present recorded thereon as voting in the affirmative with twenty-five (25) YEAS and two (2) NAYS, the Mayor declared Resolution No. 371-20 adopted.

General Fund FY 2020-2021 Budget Amendment No. 2 - August 17, 2020

Account No.	Department	Account Description	Amount
001 381 13 0000	Revenue	Other Reimbursement - CDBG-CV	(65,000)
001 409 02 003 1 103	CARE Office	Salary & Wages	49,100
001 409 02 003 1 104	CARE Office	FICA	3,751
001 409 02 003 1 105	CARE Office	Medical & Life Insurance	8,102
001 409 02 003 1 106	CARE Office	PERS	4,910
001 409 02 003 1 111	CARE Office	Dental & Vision Insurance	475
001 409 02 003 1 112	CARE Office	Employee Contribution	(1,338)

To recognize the reimbursement from the CDBG-CV budget and creating the corresponding Mental Health Coordinator position in the CARE Office.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

1. Municipal Court Report to City Council Month Ending July 2020.
Received and Filed
2. City Treasurer's Report to City Council Month Ending July 2020.
Received and Filed

NEW BILLS

NONE

MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Mayor Goodwin encouraged Councilmembers to ride-along with the Refuse crew on trash pickup days. She added that she sent a letter to AEP ensuring that what happened in the land-locked Sugar Creek area never happens again. She added that the second meeting of City Reads will be the following day. COVID-19 testing continues.
2. Councilmember Jones thanked Chief Hunt and the CPD for the resolution to an on-going problem in his Ward.
3. Councilmember Jenkins added that people are using the bottom of Green Meadow Road as an open dump, and commended the Refuse Department for helping him with this problem.
4. Councilmember Pharr thanked everyone for sending her support over the loss over the sudden loss of her mother. She added that construction on the Atlas building is progressing nicely, and there has been a lot of interest in the units.
5. Councilmember Knauff stated that the Coffee with a Cop series will continue this coming Friday at the Bigley Avenue Little League Field.

ADJOURNMENT

The Clerk, Miles C. Cary II, called the closing roll call:

YEAS: Adams, Bays, Bailey, Burton, Campbell, Ceperley, Cook, Faegre, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, King, Knauff, Laird, McKinney, Minardi, Overstreet, Persinger, Pharr, Reishman, Robinson, Sheets, Snodgrass, Steele, Wesley-Plear, Mayor Goodwin

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

At 7:44 p.m., by a motion from Councilmember Ceperley, Council adjourned until Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers in City Hall or electronically as needed.

Amy Shuler Goodwin, Honorable Mayor

Miles C. Cary II, City Clerk